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I CLAIM:

1. In a grip for the handle of an impact imparting device, a flexible strip comprising:
a polyurethane layer having its lower surface bonded to the upper surface of a felt layer;
a recessed reinforcement surface formed on a first side edge of the polyurethane layer;
the felt layer of the first side edge being slanted upwardly and outwardly from the

underside of the felt layer;

a compressed densified area formed on the second side edge of the polyurethane layer;
the second side of the strip slanting upwardly and outwardly from the underside of the

felt layer;

an adhesive on the underside of the felt layer; and

the underside of the second side edge of the strip being adhesively engageable with the
upper surface of the first side edge of the strip to form a smooth watertight juncture between such
first and second side edges of the strip.

2. A golf club grip comprising:

a flexible strip that includes a polyurethane layer having its lower surface bonded

to the upper surface of a felt layer;

a heat formed recessed reinforcement surface formed on a first side edge of the
polyurethane layer;

a heat compressed densified area formed on the second side edge of the polyurethane

layer;

the felt layer of the first side edge slanting upwardly and outwardly from the underside of the felt layer;

the second side edge of the strip slanting upwardly and outwardly along the felt and polyurethane layers;

5 an adhesive on the underside of the felt layer;

an underlisting sleeve; and

the strip being spirally wrapped about the sleeve with the underside of the second side edge of the strip overlying and being adhesively engaged with the upper surface of the first side edge of the strip to form a smooth watertight juncture between the first and second side edges
10 along the length of the underlisting sleeve.

3. A golf club grip comprising:

a flexible strip that includes a polyurethane layer having its lower surface bonded to the upper surface of a felt layer;

a heat formed recessed reinforcement surface formed on a first side edge of the
15 polyurethane layer;

a heat compressed densified area formed on the second side edge of the polyurethane layer;

the felt layer of the first side edge slanting upwardly and outwardly from the underside of the felt layer;

the second side edge of the strip slanting upwardly and outwardly along the felt and polyurethane layers;

an adhesive on the underside of the felt layer;

an underlisting sleeve; and

5 the strip being spirally wrapped about the sleeve with the underside of the second side edge of the strip overlying and adhesively secured along the upper surface of the first side edge of the strip, the second side edge tapering to a pointed feather edge where such edge abuts the innermost part of the recessed reinforcement surface to provide a thin seam at this juncture resulting in a smooth exterior surface of the grip.

10 4. A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 3 wherein the seam does not exceed 0.5mm in width.

5. A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 3 wherein the underlisting sleeve includes a cap formed with a circumferential slot and a nipple formed with an upwardly facing slot, the outer portion of the nipple groove being defined by a flexible lip; and

15 with the upper portion of the strip being firmly disposed within the cap groove and the lower portion of the strip being firmly retained in the nipple groove by the flexible lip.

6. A golf club grip as set forth in Claim 4 wherein the underlisting sleeve includes a cap formed with a circumferential slot and a nipple formed with an upwardly facing slot, the outer portion of the nipple groove being defined by a flexible lip; and

with the upper portion of the strip being firmly disposed within the cap groove and the lower portion of the strip being firmly retained in the nipple groove by the flexible lip.

7. A method of making a grip for the handle of an impact imparting device that includes the steps of:

providing a strip having a layer of polyurethane bonded to a layer of felt;

heat compressing a first side edge of the polyurethane layer to form a recessed reinforcement surface;

applying heat through the outside surface of the felt layer to the polyurethane layer at the second side edge of the strip to form a compressed densified area in such polyurethane layer without forming a mark on the outside surface of the polyurethane layer;

skiving the first side edge of the strip upwardly and outward from the underside of the felt layer;

skiving the felt layer of the second side edge of the strip upwardly and outwardly from the underside of the strip; and

applying an adhesive to the entire underside of the felt layer.

8. A method of making a golf club handle grip that includes the steps of:

providing a strip having a layer of polyurethane bonded to a layer of felt;

heat compressing a first side edge of the polyurethane layer to form a recessed reinforcement surface;

applying heat through the outside surface of the felt layer to the polyurethane layer at the second side edge of the strip to form a compressed densified area in such polyurethane layer

5 without forming a mark on the outside surface of the polyurethane layer;

skiving the first side edge of the strip upwardly and outward from the underside of the felt layer;

skiving the felt layer of the second side edge of the strip upwardly and outwardly from the underside of the strip;

10 applying an adhesive to the entire underside of the felt layer;

providing an underlisting sleeve; and

spirally wrapping the strip about the sleeve with the second side edge of the strip

overlying and adhesively engaging the upper surface of the first side edge of the strip to define a watertight juncture between the first and second side edges along the length of the underlisting

15 sleeve, with the second side edge tapering to a pointed feather edge where such edge abuts the outer part of the recessed reinforcement surface to provide a thin seam at this juncture resulting in a smooth exterior surface of the grip.

9. A method as set forth in Claim 8 wherein the adhesive is provided by a double-faced adhesive tape.